

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-10

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FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6568

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INFO AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USCINCEUR

USNMR SHAPE

USLOSACLANT

CINCLANT

S E C R E T USNATO 3676

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS 12-31-82

TAGS: MCAP, NATO, NL

SUBJECT: JULY 2 CONVERSATION WITH NETHERLANDS PERM REP ON
DEFENSE PLAN

BEGIN SUMMARY: DURING JULY 2 DISCUSSION, NETHERLANDS PERM REP
INDICATED TO RUMSFELD DUTCH OBJECTIVES FOR JULY 5 DPC MEETING.

ACTION REQUESTED: GUIDANCE IN TIME FOR MEETING. END SUMMARY.

1. FOLLOWING JULY 2 PERM REPS LUNCH, NETHERLANDS PERM REP
HARTOGH DISCUSSED WITH RUMSFELD CURRENT STATE OF PLAY IN THE
HAGUE ON NETHERLANDS DEFENSE PLAN.

2. HARTOGH SAID HE HAD BEEN ASKED TO MAKE SOME POINTS TO
RUMSFELD: FIRST, DURING THE CONSULTATION PROCESS THE
NETHERLANDS MADE A GREAT MANY AMENDMENTS IN THEIR PLAN; THEY
BELIEVE THE CONSULTATION WAS USEFUL; THEY HAVE NOTED WHAT THE
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ALLIES HAVE SUGGESTED, THEY SAW SOME DIFFERENCES AND THEY HAVE
MADE AMENDMENTS; THOSE AMENDMENTS WILL COST THE DUTCH GOVERNMENT
A GOOD DEAL OF MONEY. SECOND, THE NETHERLANDS ARE PREPARED TO
CONTINUE CONSULTATIONS IN GENERAL; ON HAWK, THEY WILL CONSULT TO

REACH AN ACCEPTABLE CONCLUSION; THEY WILL CONTINUE CONSULTATIONS THEREAFTER, AND THEY ARE MAKING THEMSELVES CLEAR THAT THEY WILL MAINTAIN THE READY STRENGTH OF THE ARMY DURING MBFR.

3. PRIVATELY HARTOGH SAID THE NETHERLANDS HAVE GONE FURTHER THAN THE CABINET HAD TOLD THE ELECTORATE THEY WOULD GO AND FURTHER THAN HE THOUGHT THEY COULD GO. THE DUTCH GOVERNMENT IS NOW HOPING FOR SOME SENTENCE IN THE ALLIANCE'S UNCLASSIFIED TEXT WELCOMING DUTCH MODIFICATIONS RESULTING FROM NATO CONSULTATIONS. HOWEVER, NATO'S WELCOME SHOULD NOT BE TOO GOOD OR IT WILL CAUSE THE NETHERLANDS TROUBLE ON THE LEFT.

4. WITH RESPECT TO NETHERLANDS NAVAL REDUCTIONS, HARTOGH SAID THE FAULT LAY WITH SUCCESSIVE GOVERNMENTS.

5. WITH RESPECT TO AIRCRAFT, HE SAID THAT ORIGINALLY THE NETHERLANDS SAID THEY WOULD REPLACE ONE FOR ONE, BUT THEY DO NOT NOW PLAN TO DO IT AND THERE WILL BE A GAP TOWARDS THE END OF THE DECADE. THE NETHERLANDS ARE REPLACING 102 OF 112 AIRCRAFT AND THE CABINET IS REASONABLY SURE THE NETHERLANDS CAN'T REPLACE ONE FOR ONE LATER ON BECAUSE OF THE COST.

6. DURING THE DPC MEETING JULY 5, HARTOGH INTENDS TO SEEK ALLIED AGREEMENT THAT THE NETHERLANDS DEFENSE PLAN " MIGHT IMPAIR" OR "COULD IMPAIR" THE ALLIANCE (RATHER THAN THE UNCONDITIONAL "WOULD HAVE ADVERSE EFFECTS"); HE ALSO SEEKS A SENTENCE IN NATO'S UNCLASSIFIED TEXT TO THE EFFECT THAT NATO APPRECIATES THE AMENDMENTS MADE TO THEIR DEFENSE PLAN BY THE NETHERLANDS AFTER INITIAL NATO CONSULTATIONS. ACTION REQUESTED: GUIDANCE ON WASHINGTON VIEWS OF NETHERLANDS PROPOSALS.
RUMSFELD

SECRET

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